

and observe them work during trials. They also gave me the opportunity to be politically involved, and I have no doubt that the freedom and support I enjoyed with them allowed me to serve and now be in the U.S. Senate.

At the age of 77, Drake DeLanoy continues to build on his strong career. As an appointee of the Governor, Drake now serves on the Governing Board of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, which protects and preserves the beauty of the Tahoe basin.

I will forever be grateful to Drake DeLanoy. The lessons he taught and the experiences he provided have stayed with me all these years.

As Drake and Jackie celebrate their 55th anniversary and Drake looks forward to another year, I congratulate them both and wish them many more years of happiness together.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

LANCE CORPORAL CHAD MAYNARD

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to remember one of Colorado's fallen heroes, Marine LCpl Chad Bryant Maynard who was killed last week in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. He was only 19 years old.

Lance Corporal Maynard hailed from Montrose, CO, on the Western Slope. Growing up, it was his dream to serve his country. Chad Maynard's deep patriotism was a family tradition—his father served in the Marines, and his brother Jacob returned from his second tour in Iraq a few months ago.

As a high school student, Chad had secretly contacted recruiters when he was 16 about his wish to join the Marines. His parents remember him sneaking recruiting brochures into the house. The recruiters had to ask him to stop contacting them until he was 18.

But Lance Corporal Maynard was determined to serve his country. He joined the junior ROTC at Montrose High School. One of his friends once quipped, "God rested on the seventh day and on the eighth day made Maynard for the Marines. . . ." He worked hard at his classes so he could graduate early to go to boot camp. At his 2004 graduation from Montrose High, Chad Maynard stood proudly in his Marine Corps dress uniform.

Lance Corporal Maynard's friends and instructors remember him as a young man who took his commitment to his country very seriously. On September 11, Lance Corporal Maynard organized a prayer around the flagpole at school. He sought out the Marines because he wanted to be on the front lines, making a difference for his country.

Today in Montrose is the funeral for Lance Corporal Maynard. Just 1 year and 6 days after he picked up his diploma, Chad Maynard was taken from us, a life of extraordinary promise snuffed out all too soon. He served his Nation with honor and distinction.

LCpl Chad Maynard set an example for all those around him to follow and

left a positive mark on every life he touched. Chad's brave and selfless actions have made the world a better and safer place for all of us and we owe him a debt of gratitude which we will never be able to pay. To his wife Becky and their soon-to-be-born child, I send my humble thanks for Chad's sacrifice on our behalf. Your family will remain in my thoughts and prayers.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

A 17-year-old transgender woman and her 18-year-old friend were shot in the head while sitting in a SUV, which was set on fire. The SUV was found in an isolated parking lot after the two had been missing for a day. Their bodies were burned beyond recognition. The perpetrator allegedly killed the two victims when he discovered that one of them was a crossdresser.

The Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY IN DARFUR

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, Senator BROWBACK and I have submitted a resolution to designate July 15-17, 2005 as a National Weekend of Prayer and Reflection to draw attention to the genocide and Crimes Against Humanity occurring in Darfur, Sudan, and to find a solution to this great moral challenge. The resolution calls upon the people of the United States to pray and reflect. Churches, synagogues, mosques, other communities of faith, and all individuals of compassion will join together to acknowledge, observe, and reflect upon the crimes against humanity that continue to occur in Darfur, so that we can together end the genocide and bring about lasting peace to Sudan.

The Congress and administration have already defined the atrocities in Darfur as genocide. Estimates of the death toll range from 180,000 to 400,000. More than two million people have been displaced from their homes, including over 200,000 refugees in Chad. Recent accounts of these atrocities, as reported by Doctors without Borders, include documented rapes by soldiers and government-backed militia.

Many religious and human rights leaders, communities, and institutions throughout the world have already spoken out, and called for an end to the genocide. In my own state, thousands participated in a Darfur Sabbath Week-end on May 14-15, 2005, when clergy and congregations throughout New Jersey addressed this crisis during their worship services. With my friend and colleague Representative DONALD PAYNE, I was privileged to visit a mosque, a synagogue, a Catholic rectory, an African American Baptist Church and a United Methodist Church during those two days.

Whatever the denomination, we spoke to each other in the same language, and committed ourselves to the same determination to act according to our words and the dictates of our universal conscience. That profound experience impels me to this broader outreach. I want to take this opportunity to urge my fellow members of Congress to join me in saying, "never again." Never again, will we accept the slaughter of fellow human beings. Never again, will we stand by as systematic crimes are inflicted upon humanity. I ask that you join me, Senator BROWBACK and people all across the globe in supporting this unified movement to tell the world that humanity will never again allow genocide to occur.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I salute today the students who participated in the National History Day national contest that was held last week at the University of Maryland. More than 700,000 students in grades 6 through 12 from all over the country chose topics, researched, and presented their projects at State and local competitions this year. I am proud that 52 students from Tennessee made it to Washington. I especially want to recognize two of those students, Daniel Jordan and Tyler Sexton, eighth graders at St. John Neumann School in Knoxville.

Their National History Day project is a documentary on Sequoyah's Syllabary, which they presented at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Sequoyah was a Cherokee warrior who was born in east Tennessee and created a syllabary, which is often called the Cherokee alphabet. He was born in 1776 in the village of Tuskegee, which was very near Vonore, TN, where the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum is located.

Daniel and Tyler say the seed for their documentary was planted during a visit to the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum. The two boys got tired and decided to sit on several bales of hay in the center of a field. After a few minutes, two Cherokee approached the boys and explained that they were sitting on a holy prayer circle. The boys apologized profusely and removed themselves, but not before they learned

more from Star Medicine Woman and Elk Dreamer about the Cherokee Indians, especially Sequoyah and the relation to present-day culture. The boys were fascinated and appreciated the kindness shown to them.

Along with congratulating these outstanding students, I also recognize their teacher, Judy Buscetta, who is the winner of the National History Day in Tennessee's Teacher of the Year award. Daniel said it best in a letter he wrote to me to let me know he was going to be in Washington. He said: Without good teachers, we do not have a chance.

I am proud of Judy and Daniel and Tyler. Students and teachers like them are who I had in mind when I introduced legislation along with the distinguished minority leader to put the teaching of American history and civics back into our classrooms, so our children grow up learning what it means to be an American. I am proud that the Presidential academies for teachers and congressional academies for students in American history and civics through the Department of Education are beginning this summer as a result of Congress passing and the President signing that bill into law.

I have also introduced legislation with Senator EDWARD KENNEDY of Massachusetts to create a 10-State pilot study to provide State-by-State comparisons of U.S. history and civics test data for 8th and 12th grades administered through the National Assessment of Educational Progress, NAEP, to assess and improve knowledge of American history.

I appreciate National History Day and its commitment to improving the teaching and learning of American history in our schools. I also appreciate Daniel, Tyler and Judy, fellow Tennesseans, who are working to keep history alive.

ELIGIBILITY FOR AUTOMATIC COMPENSATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have come to the floor today to celebrate a landmark achievement for former nuclear weapons workers in Iowa. Today marks the completion of an administrative process whereby workers from the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, who assembled some of the most significant nuclear weapons in this Nation's history and subsequently developed devastating forms of cancer, will become eligible for automatic compensation.

Reaching this point has been an example of both the best and the worst in our system of government. I first started working on this issue back in 1997 when I received a letter from a constituent, Bob Anderson, who wrote about how he and many of his former coworkers had become ill after working on nuclear weapons in Burlington, IA. I shake my head every time I think of what Bob's reaction must have been when he got a letter back from me,

telling him that the Department of the Army had assured my office that they never made nuclear weapons in Burlington!

In fact, the list of weapons that were made by Bob and 4,000 other Iowans includes many familiar names: Polaris, Titan, Pershing, Minuteman the list just goes on and on. It's a tribute to the workers in Burlington that while the Cold War was going on, no one beyond the workers at the plant—including me—ever had a clue about the work that was occurring. They did their job with excellence, and they did it at great personal peril. The men and women of Burlington truly were on the front lines of the Cold War. They received no medals, no thank-you's, no special pay. Instead, they paid a terrible price. The levels and types of cancer that have afflicted this workforce are shocking. And along with these illnesses have come financial hardships—pain and suffering—which family members have witnessed and nursed loved ones through—and, in too many cases, premature death.

Today, finally, workers from IAAP, including Bob Anderson, at long last, will receive compensation. Equally importantly, at long last, they have some measure of justice.

This has been a long process. It seems like more than seven years since I brought then-Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson to the plant to meet with workers. It seems like more than six years since I got a team from the University of Iowa School of Public Health to track and analyze the illnesses that workers had developed. And it has been almost five years since Congress passed the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act to actually provide compensation to these workers.

For almost five years we have struggled through one of the worst bureaucratic processes that I have ever seen. We have been required to demonstrate that no documents existed that would allow the radiation doses the workers received to be accurately reconstructed. It has been mind-boggling that a program designed to compensate people who had been deceived by the government, could put those same people through a second bureaucratic nightmare.

But today is a day to celebrate. It is also a time to say thank you for the marvelous team effort that has made this day possible. IAAP was the first facility to file a petition for automatic compensation, and only the 2nd in the Nation to be approved. While I have worked hard to make that happen, it simply could not have happened without the workers themselves, as well as the University of Iowa scientists.

I would like to say a special thank you to Jack Polson, Sy Iverson, Paula Graham, and Vaughn Moore. It was their willingness to repeatedly challenge the assumptions that were made about the work performed at the plant, and about how that work was done,

that forced the Government to acknowledge that the documents from the plant were just inadequate to accurately reconstruct the levels of radiation that workers were exposed to.

I also want to thank Joe Shannon, Laska Yerington, Sharon Shumaker, Marge Foster and Nancy Harman for their service on the Advisory Board here in Burlington and Shirley Wiley and Ed Webb for their help with the petition.

No thank-you is complete without acknowledging how fortunate we were to have the help of the University of Iowa team: Laurence Fuortes, Bill Field, Kristina Venske, Howard Nicholson, Christina Nichols, Marek Mikulski, Phyllis Scheeler, Stephanie Leonard, and Laura McCormick.

I would also like to thank my own staff. Alison Hart, my staffer in Davenport, Iowa, has put her heart into helping hundreds of workers and their families navigate this whole process.

I would also like to thank Peter Tyler, Lowell Unger, Michelle Evermore, Jenny Wing, Ellen Murray, and Beth Stein of my Washington, DC, staff for their years of sustained work on this effort. And a special thank you is owed to Richard Miller of the Government Accountability Project for his assistance and his commitment to making this compensation program work.

Finally, I would like to thank Bob Anderson and his wife Kathy. Bob and Kathy have weathered the ups and downs of this process with patience, good humor, and great fortitude. It will be a proud day for me when they actually receive a compensation check in hand from the Treasury. It speaks volumes that a letter from one Iowan can set in motion a monumental process that, in the end, will bring acknowledgement, compensation, and a measure of justice to so many.

While more than 700 former workers are still seeking compensation, today marks our first significant victory. The people who will now be receiving compensation include at least 364 of those who got the most serious illnesses from their work at IAAP. Unfortunately, this group includes far too many workers who are no longer with us. In their honor and in their memory, I thank all of the former workers of the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant for their patience, their persistence, and their service to America. They are genuine patriots.

COMMEMORATING 142 YEARS OF WEST VIRGINIA STATEHOOD

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I commemorate 142 years of statehood for my State of West Virginia. In doing so, I believe that it is important to note my State's motto, "Mountaineers Are Always Free." This phrase, as relevant today as it was 142 years ago, truly embodies a people who have done so much to contribute to our great Nation and a State so abundant in natural beauty.